



SECRET

SUBJECT: Formosa

PARTICIPANTS: Deputy Under Secretary Dean Rusk,
Deputy Assistant Secretary Llewellyn E. Thompson, BY *P. C. C. C. C.* DATE *1/9/50*
Sir Derick Hoyer Millar, Minister, British Embassy,
Mr. H. A. Graves, Counselor, British Embassy, *EXCISE DENIED AS INDICATED*

COPIES TO: G - Mr. Rusk
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I referred to the articles that had appeared in the press on our policy in regard to Formosa. I stated that in fact our policy remained unchanged. I summarized this policy as follows: We hope that Formosa would not fall into the hands of the Communists. We had been giving some economic aid to Nationalist China. The Nationalists still have some funds and might purchase further supplies for shipment to Formosa. We would not allow heavy items, such as bombers and heavy tanks, to be shipped to Formosa. We did not intend to become engaged in the defense of Formosa, however, and we had no plans to send a big military mission there. With respect to shipments of military supplies, I said there would be some borderline cases and we would endeavor to keep the British informed about these.

Hoyer Millar said that the British would be very grateful for any information.

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Hoyer Millar referred to press reports of a decision of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and of the National Security Council on this question. I confined my comment to saying that the Joint Chiefs of Staff had expressed themselves on some aspects of the situation and that the National Security Council had only considered this matter in connection with some other problems it was considering. I agreed that we would keep the British informed on shipments of major military items to Formosa.

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